



CALPEEK

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CALIF. INITIATIVE UPDATE: BRAGG LAUNCHES 2ND SLOT MACHINE PLAN. WHERE DO INDIANS STAND?

Editor's note: The Secretary of State's office has given the green light to developer Mark Bragg to move forward with another initiative putting slot machines in his two Palm Springs card clubs. This initiative, if it qualifies, will be a very hot political item in '98. Here is our update & analysis...

...The official title of this measure is **Gambling. Slot Machines. Legalization, Regulation, Taxation. Initiative Constitutional Amendment**. Bragg and his team must collect 693,230 valid signatures by a Nov. 3rd deadline. Realistically, the number of signatures which must be collected is closer to 1.2 million --- to insure qualification for either June or November of '98. The group leading the petition drive goes by the name of the *Calif. Gaming Control Committee*, with James A. Taylor as the sponsor. The campaign/initiative team includes Chuck Cavalier as the lead consultant; Mike Arno of Arno Professional Consulting as the lead petition consultant; and the Sacto law firm of Bell McAndrews & Hiltachk. The petitions should hit the street this week(6/16)...

...Among the provisions of this plan: 1) authorize slot machines in Palm Springs w/o local voter approval; 2) require a 2/3rds vote for new or expanded cardrooms; 3) create a CA Gaming Control Commission; 4) establish gaming investigative and enforcement divisions within the CA DOJ; and 5) place a tax on slot machine revenues...

...This is the second time Bragg has attempted to qualify such an initiative. The first attempt in '96 fell short and next month sources say Bragg and Bozell Worldwide will enter arbitration in an attempt to settle the financial problems arising out of that first attempt. At the time of the first initiative, Arno's firm was own-

ed by Bozell. There were some problems between Arno & Bozell - and that's why Arno is on his own once again. It's complicated. Bottomline: Bragg spent about \$2 million in his 1st qualification attempt...

...FYI: Politically, the touchy question of the hour is where do **Calif.'s Indian tribes** who operate card clubs (with their own form of electronic video slot machines) stand? Sources say some of the tribes are talking with Bragg, but it's not known how these discussions are going or what the final outcome will be. Why are some tribes talking to Bragg? It's leverage to hold over Gov. Pete Wilson(R), who is now trying to reach an agreement with the Indians (called a *compact*) over gaming in Calif. And remember: if Bragg II passes, then all the Indian tribes can keep their slot machines --- and there's nothing Wilson or AG Dan Lungren(R) can do. Stay tuned...

FULL METAL JACKET: GUN BILLS AND POLITICS.

Editor's note: The big news out of Sacto last week was about all the various GUN BILLS which passed out of the CA Assembly and are now headed to the Senate. Lots of politics here, as a number of these bills passed with just 41 votes. And on most of these bills there were few GOP votes. Here's our update & analysis...

...For the past several months, **Calpeek** has been tracking about 12 of these so-called law & order/gun bills. Of the group we were tracking, five(5) were killed, including AB 136 & AB 247, which would have given local government the power to pass their own gun laws. But the rest were approved, although the battle is far from over...

...Of the *Lucky 7*, the three(3) which the media tends to focus on are: AB 488 by Assemblyman Louis Caldera (D-L.A.) and SB 500 by Sen. Richard Polanco (D-L.A.), both ban the manufacturing of Saturday Night

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Special handguns; and AB 23 by Assemblyman Don Perata(D-Oakland), which is a complete re-write of Calif.'s Roberti-Roos Law banning assault weapons. All of these bills are being watched nationwide...

...L.A. Times columnist George Skelton correctly noted that the gun bill logjam was busted when AB 488 (Saturday Night Special ban) passed with just enough votes. Sources say 488 was in trouble until GOP Assemblymen Brooks Firestone of Santa Barbara, followed by Steve Kuykendall of Palos Verdes, had second thoughts and voted YES -- thus breaking ranks with the rest of the GOP Caucus...

...When the logjam broke, other gun bills started to move --- thanks mostly to a group of 12 moderate Demos known in the Capitol as Cavala-Nowick bloc (for Demo consultants Bill Cavala & Irwin Nowick). These are Demos who are friendly towards hunters & target shooters. Who are the 12? Key votes suggest the following: Speaker Cruz Bustamante, Kerry Mazzone, Sally Havice, Virginia Strom-Martin, Tony Cardenas, Susan Davis, Mike Machado, Lou Papan, Valerie Brown, Dennis Cardoza, Denise Ducheny and Rod Wright, who is the strongest pro-gun member in the Demo Caucus...

...Another reason why the other gun bills started to move was due to the *political clout* of the American Shooting Sports Council(ASSC). ASSC is the trade group representing the firearms industry. At this point, the ASSC is "neutral with concerns" on AB 23 (assault weapons); AB 991 (requires new Calif. residents to register their guns, just like current residents); AB 131 (requires reporting of lost or stolen handguns); and AB 1124 (requires trigger locks for all guns). Had the ASSC been strongly opposed, it's doubtful these bills would have passed...

...**Assault Weapons:** AB 23 passed, with Dick Floyd(D) and Jim Cunneen(the only GOPer voting YES) providing the deciding votes. Although Perata wasn't especially pleased, he agreed to remove the magazine/clip restrictions in the bill, making it more acceptable to all parties. Most of the current laws restrict assault weapons by brand name and copycat regulation. But recent court decisions have struck down such laws. If Calif.'s law was tossed out, so the theory goes, there would be an attempt to place an

initiative on the ballot -- and such an initiative might impact legitimate sporting rifles. AB 23 bans assault weapons by generic description -- special features which are unique to assault weapons. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: PART III - CALIF. U.S. HOUSE RACES.

Editor's note: This week **Calpeek** will take a look at 3 more U.S. House contests here in Calif...

☒ **41st CD** - This is the CD of 3-term U.S. Rep. Jay Kim(R-Diamond Bar). While Kim has yet to be indicted, his '92 campaign treasurer was convicted (along with guilty pleas from a number of foreign corporations) -- all arising from improper fundraising and contributions in '92. Kim has denied any wrongdoing. The 41st CD is solid GOP turf, meaning Demos need not apply. In the rumor department, Assemblyman Gary Miller(R-Diamond Bar) is sniffing around, but nothing more. The 41st CD is on our *watch list*...

☒ **44th CD** - This is the CD of U.S. Rep. Sonny Bono(R-Palm Springs). If Bono gives up his very safe seat to run for the U.S. Senate in '98, this seat will likely stay in GOP hands. Already laying the groundwork *just in case* is Assemblyman Jim Battin(R-Palm Desert). Also said to be giving this CD a serious look is Beaumont Mayor Jan Leja(R)...

☒ **45th CD** - This is the district of U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher(R-Huntington Beach). If CA's *Open Primary Law* is upheld in court, Rohrabacher could be in some trouble, should Demos cross party lines in the primary. And still looking seriously at challenging Rohrabacher is Wes Bannister(R), who in '90 & '94 ran for Insurance Commissioner. The jury is still out on whether he'll run and he's being discouraged by the **Orange Co. GOP Junta**. Bannister is close to the Junta in terms of political philosophy, but is not a member. The big question: can Bannister raise the money? The 45th CD is on **Calpeek's watch list**...

...FYI: A correction from last week. U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D-Torrance) is **not** a new member of the *Blue Dog Demos* in the U.S. House. But she is a FOBD (Friend Of...). Harman got loads of tv exposure June 7th defending Air Force Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, the AF general who took himself out of the running for Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

June 19-20	Sessions on Public Land Reform & Western Water Policy, sponsored by Council of State Govts - West. Park City, Utah.
June 20-22	G-7 Summit, Denver, CO.
June 20-24	U.S. Conf. of Mayors, San Francisco.
June 22	DCCC Dinner in San Francisco.
June 23	DCCC Fundraising breakfast, Silicon Valley.
June 23	Pres. Bill Clinton addresses U.S. Conf. of Mayors, San Francisco.
July 18-20	UC Davis Extension's 13th annual Political Campaign Management Institute.
July 22-30	Nat'l Governor's Assn. meeting, Las Vegas.
July 26-28	50th Annual CA Broadcasters Assn. convention, Monterey, CA.
July 27	DCCC Dinner in L.A. w/Pres. Bill Clinton.
July 29	Trial begins on challenge to constitutionality of CA's Open Primary Law, U.S. Court, Sacto.
Aug. 2-Sept. 2	Congressional recess.
Aug. 6-10	Nat'l Conf. of State Legislatures annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
Aug. 21-23	Regional Political Leadership Summit, sponsored by the Council of State Govts. - West. San Francisco.
Sept. 12	CA Legislative session ends.
Nov. 16-19	IAPC Annual Conf., Buenos Aires.
Dec. 3-5	Sessions on Tourism & Future of Western Legislatures. Sponsored by Council of State Govts. - West. Kohala Coast, Hawaii.
Dec. 5-9	Council of State Govts. annual meeting, Honolulu.

SPRING '97 ELECTIONS: MORE JUNE 3rd ANALYSIS.

Editor's note: We didn't finish everything off with last week's analysis of the June 3rd Spring muni elections around the State. So here is Part II...

☒ ***A Few Winners & Losers*** - In San Francisco, the winner, but not by much, was Mayor Willie Brown, who really stuck his neck out on Measures D & F, the two measures which will see the city pop for \$100 million in revenue bonds to help the S.F. 49ers build a new football stadium and shopping mall. When the U.S. Conference of Mayors meets in S.F. from June 20-24, Willie Brown won't be seen as the mayor who lost the 49ers franchise to Cleveland. FYI: YES on D is now ahead by 1,442 (vs. 781 on the day after the election)...

...Thus in the short term, the mayor won this battle with Clint Reilly and State Sen. Quentin Kopp(I-S.F.), but in long term, D & F may cost him down the road, just as expending public funds on sports facilities (and sucking up to franchise owners) has hurt San Diego

Mayor Susan Golding and Sacto Mayor Joe Serna. The **big loser** on D/F wasn't Reilly or Kopp, but D/F lead consultant Jack Davis, who burned bridges and had his reputation & judgment dragged through the mud because of that stupid X-rated birthday party...

...Other **winners**: consultant John Whitehurst on S.F. Measure "C" (\$48 million in bonds for renovation of the S.F. Zoo) - narrowly winning with 66.9%. David Binder handled polling on "C." The Kamber Group in L.A. for YES on "E" and consultant Fred Register for YES on L. And consultant Rick Taylor for his come-from-behind win for new 11th CD Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski...

☒ ***More on S.F.'s Measures D & F*** - The YES side, which may have spent close to \$3 million when all the goodies are finally added up, didn't use the donut shtick nor the Starbucks coffee giveaway to entice voters. Instead they relied on videos, mail and a massive GOTV effort. In terms of mail, one source remembers getting at least 18 pieces from YES on D/F. Included in the mail was one piece aimed at gay voters --- noting that the 49ers were the only sports team to offer domestic partnership benefits. That's Semi-Tough targeting. The mail was done by Terris & Jaye...

☒ ***School Bonds*** - Statewide, sources report there were 38 such measures on the June 3rd ballot --- and 26 were winners with a 2/3rds vote or higher. The big winner was S.F. Measure "A", which got 70% for this \$140 million bond. The big losers: Sacto & Torrance. Stay tuned...

SOME INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK.

Here is some helpful information about **Calpeek** that you may need to know. Deadlines for news and Marketplace Network: 12 noon each Wednesday. **Calpeek** is printed and mailed each Thursday. Our FAX is (310)657-4340; E-Mail address is Calpeek@aol.com. **Calpeek** does NOT make refunds on cancellations...

\$\$\$ IN POLITICS TOPIC AT COMMONWEALTH CLUB.

Herb Alexander, director of the Citizens' Research Foundation at USC, will discuss *Money In Politics: Prospects for Reform*, 4:45 p.m., June 18, at the Commonwealth Club of CA's main office, S.F. For info ☎(415)597-6705...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ ***Charges Dropped Against Montgomery*** - The July 6, 1996 headline read: *Ex-GOP Chief Indicted in Bid to Sway Assemblyman*. Former Calif. Republican Party Chair Mike Montgomery had been indicted on 6 counts of trying to bribe former Assemblyman Bill Hoge(R-Pasadena). In a May 30th letter to Montgomery's attorney, Clyde Blackmon, Sacto Asst. Chief Dep. DA Albert C. Locher wrote in a 2-sentence(3-line) letter that his office was dropping the charges. From the very beginning, Montgomery claimed he was innocent. In 1994-95, Montgomery held discussions with Hoge (and Hoge wore a *wire* to record the conversations) regarding a card club franchise. As for Hoge, after his defeat last November, the former lawmaker seems to have disappeared - but no one really misses him...

■ ***Effort to Alter 3-Strikes Fails*** - In an effort to tighten Calif.'s *3-Strikes Law*, the State Senate rejected on a 13-25 vote SB 1317 by Barbara Lee(D-Oakland) which would have modified the 3rd strike to include only *serious or violent felonies*, as opposed to the current law, which can send a person to prison for life for any 3rd strike felony --- violent or non-violent...

■ ***O.C.'s Ballot Fraud Trial*** - Laurie Campbell, the *decoy Demo* in the 67th AD recall election ballot fraud trial of GOP campaign operative Rhonda Carmony, has changed her earlier testimony to investigators and in court June 11th said Carmony *never* gave her instructions to falsify nominating petitions. When Campbell first spoke to the DA months ago, she said both Carmony and another campaign worker, Jeff Gibson, had at times told her how to fill out the paperwork while seated in a car outside the registrar's office. Instead, Campbell said Gibson gave her instructions. In his trial testimony, Gibson said it was Carmony (not him) who instructed Campbell. These conflicting, but absolutely key statements, sets up one of the witnesses for *perjury*. Campbell's testimony was certainly good news for Carmony, because earlier testimony had been going against her, including some rather damaging stuff from Baugh campaign mgr. Richard Martin, who claimed Carmony instructed him not only to recruit Campbell, but to help collect signatures. More next week. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Belated anniversary greetings: 19th anniversary (June 6, 1978) to Prop. 13 - the Jarvis/Gann Initiative...
- A name change: S.F.-based campaign consultant John Whitehurst dumps the Strategy & Campaign Mgt. Group in favor of *Whitehurst Campaigns*. Bravo...
- Adam D. Probolsky & Assoc. has relocated its HQ to 3700 Campus Drive, Ste. 207, Newport Beach, CA 92660. New ☎(714)360-5992. Probolsky also has expanded his p/a & polling divisions...
- Kelly Rudiger has been hired as executive director of Citiznes Against Lawsuit Abuse/San Diego chapter...
- Elaine Hoffman moves her Sacto-based polling firm, EMH, Inc., to 1112 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. ☎(916)443-4722...
- Thomas K. Conner has been named interim chief of L.A. City's Dept. of Transportation...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

- **Political Professional** needed for Democratic campaign consulting firm. Direct mail, media, press and public relations. Strong writing and creative skills required. Send resume, writing samples and salary requirements to P.O. Box 188039, Sacramento, CA 95818-8039...
- **Cerrell Associates** seeks a media director to manage heavy issue-oriented public affairs communications department. A minimum of five years experience with local media, strong writing and media counseling skills are required. Fax resume with references to Hal Dash, president, (213)466-8653. No calls...

CALPEEK's Marketplace Network is a listing of employer and employee availabilities for those engaged in campaign consulting, public affairs, public relations, government relations and legislative advocacy. The cost for each listing is \$25 for up to 40 words. 70 word maximum. Add \$5 for each additional 10 words. Send ad copy with payment (*no invoicing*) to CALPEEK, Attn: Marketplace Network, P.O. Box 1468, Beverly Hills, CA 90213. For info ☎(310)659-0205...